Welcome to the biannual STOHN newsletter!

Since its inception 2008, STOHN has made steady progress over the years. Currently, 32 dental practitioners from Bexar County and the surrounding area are active network members.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
- STOHN Update
- STOHN Meeting
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- Member Recruitment

New Member Spotlight

Dr. Marko Alanis
UTHSCSA, 2001
Marko E. Alanis, DDS
Edinburg, TX

Dr. Brady Morehead
Buffalo, 2001
Brady Morehead, DDS, PA, FAGD
San Antonio, TX

Dr. Susan Delk
Baylor, 2001
Brady Dental Group, PA
Brady, TX

Dr. Claudia Carvazos
UTHSCSA, 1996
Gateway Community Health Center
Laredo, TX

STOHN Summer Meeting on August 5, 2011

Please join us at the STOHN Summer Meeting to welcome our guest speaker Dr. Carlos Jaen PhD MD, as he presents on “Tobacco Cessation Guideline Updates”, get information on current projects, discuss upcoming studies and help develop new research questions.

August 5, 2011 at 2:00 pm—5:30pm
The UT Health Science Center
Long (main) Campus
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
Room 114-118 Academic Administration Building
San Antonio, TX 78229

Please contact Stephanie Reyes by calling (210) 567-7871 or by email at ReyesS@uthscsa.edu to register or for more information.

STOHN Gets a New Website

The recently improved and redesigned STOHN website can now be viewed at http://stohn.uthscsa.edu. Visit the website to learn more about the network through our FAQ section, information on training, current, ongoing, and upcoming projects, events, resources and access to relevant publications and presentations.

YOU could be featured on our website!

Send your pictures to STOHN offices
Ongoing Study:
Prevalence of Undiagnosed Diabetes Among Patients in Community-Based Dental Practices (Phase II)

**Purpose:** Examine the potential for dental practices to offer undiagnosed diabetes patients a unique portal into medical care beyond physician-centered settings.

**Hypotheses:** Dental offices provide a unique point of care for testing and disease identification; and Patients presenting to dental offices have a limited awareness of their diabetic condition and susceptibility.

**Pilot Data:** Pilot data showed that 36% (N=66) of patients were at high risk for Type 2 diabetes, but only 14% (N=26) had been diagnosed. Of the high-risk patients, 64% (N=42) were women and 49% (N=32) were Hispanic. 84% (N=53) of these patients were accessing health care services regularly; hence, the prevalence of undiagnosed patients at high risk of Type 2 diabetes is 31.1% despite regular medical care.

**Next Steps:** This study has been chosen by the Network as an entry point project for new members. The objective of this study is to extend the initial survey to include a broader population within the San Antonio area and to focus more precisely on the potential for dental offices to serve as an alternate medical access point for previously undiagnosed diabetes patients.

Ongoing Study:
Dental Practitioners’ Knowledge and Perceptions of BONJ

**Purpose:** To assess practicing dentists’ perceptions, attitudes and knowledge towards BONJ and treatment recommendations regarding the management of patients with a history of bisphosphonate therapy utilizing the South Texas Oral Health Network.

**Hypotheses:** Dentists’ perceptions, attitudes and knowledge about the prevalence of bisphosphonate therapy and associated risks in their patient populations may compromise therapeutic options provided to their patients. Furthermore, educational interventions clarifying misunderstandings of the prevalence of therapy and risks associated with bisphosphonate therapy will alter the therapeutic options provided to patients.

**Method:** 79 STOHN members, SADDS members & UTHSCSA Dental School faculty members completed the initial pilot of a 38-question online survey.

**Preliminary Results:** Pilot data showed that the overall knowledge of dental practitioners in relation to the topic of BONJ was good on average. On the other hand, the perception and attitudes of the dental practitioners and their patients towards this topic differed. Summary results will be presented at the STOHN Meeting August 5th, 2011.

**Next Steps:** This study is being extended to the south Texas region. The data collection process will be ongoing over the next few months.

How are STOHN Studies Conducted?
Collecting data is an integral part of any research study. Studies conducted by STOHN usually follow a specific protocol to ensure participation and timely, accurate data collection.

1. Invitation letters are sent to clinics requesting participation in a particular study.
2. Once the practitioner accepts the invitation, the STOHN Practice Facilitator (PF) makes contact with the clinic.
3. The PF works with the Practice Manager to establish and carry out the plan for the project.
4. In the case of a survey study, the PF will drop off the survey at the clinic, establish and discuss a timeline with the practitioner, periodically check the progress, and pick up the surveys once completed.
In the WORKS...

What have we been up to?

- The STOHN Infrastructure manuscript has been submitted to the Texas Dental Journal for publication.
- The Prevalence of Undiagnosed Diabetes in Dental Offices manuscript is currently being drafted.
- The STOHN member recruitment video is undergoing editing. It will be showcased at the STOHN Meeting on August 5th, 2011.
- Planning and organizing the Dissemination of Tobacco Cessation Toolkits to dental and medical clinics.
- Planning and organizing the STOHN Summer Meeting for August 5, 2011.
- Planning and organizing the PBRN Convocation for October 22, 2011.

Want to contribute to a journal article or project development? We would love your help! Please contact STOHN offices.

Have you completed the Human Subjects Research Training?

All STOHN Members are required to complete this training!

It’s just 2 simple steps:
1. Watch a 30 minute video
2. Complete a short 14 question quiz

Visit the STOHN website at http://stohn.uthscsa.edu/training.html for information and resources on how to complete this training.

Questions? Contact the PBRN Resource Center at 210-567-7871

Did You Know?

Approximately 8.2% of the adults in Bexar County are diagnosed with diabetes making it the 4th leading cause of death in the county.

A test designed by the American Diabetes Association can be accessed online to determine your diabetes risk by answering 10 simple questions at www.diabetes.org/diabetes-basics/prevention/diabetes-risk-test/

STOHN is Recruiting!

If you have colleagues interested in joining the network, please direct them to the information below.

Rahma Mungia BDS, MSc, DDPHRCs, Co-Director
7703 Floyd Curl Drive, Mail Code: 7728
San Antonio, Texas 78229
Tel: 210-567 7809, Fax: 210-567 7820
mungia@uthscsa.edu
http://stohn.uthscsa.edu